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Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

July 30, 1990KET FILE COPY ORIGINA

Gary Epstein, Esquire Chief, Common Carrier Bureau Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Assumption of pole attachment jurisdiction by the Arizona Corporation Commission

Dear Mr. Epstein:

This letter is written on behalf of the Arizona Cable Television Association ("ACTA") with regard to the recent assumption of jurisdiction over the rates, terms and conditions of pole attachments by the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC").

On July 22, 1981, the ACC decided, without notice, bearing, or public comment, that it would assert jurisdiction over pole attachments. Pursuant to that action, the ACC sent a letter dated July 23, 1981, to the Commission purporting to provide the "state certification" called for under Section 1.1414 of the Rules.

ACTA submits that the July 23 ACC letter is inadequate to meet the requirements of Section 1.1414(d) because it contains no citation as to "the law, regulation or other instrument conferring such authority." Indeed, it would have been difficult, if not impossible, for the ACC to have provided such information since no proceeding was conducted, no documents supporting jurisdiction appear to exist, and no written decision has been issued by the ACC. Therefore, unless and until the ACC can provide an adequately substantiated state certification, the Commission must continue to maintain jurisdiction over pole attachment disputes arising in the State of Arizona.

Gary Epstein, Esquire July 30, 1981 Page 2

Assuming, arguendo, that the ACC certification letter is deemed adequate, ACTA requests that the Commission not forward pending Arizona pole attachment complaint files to the ACC at this time. ACTA, together with certain individual cable companies, is challenging the ACC's assumption of jurisdiction in the Arizona courts. As part of that legal challenge ACTA will be seeking to enjoin the ACC's exercise of its jurisdiction pending the outcome of the litigation. Should an injunction be granted by the court in Arizona, regulatory jurisdiction would again be vested in the Commission. alternative would be a hiatus period when neither the Commission nor Arizona could exercise jurisdiction, a situation which clearly runs contrary to Section 224 of the Communications Act.) A decision on ACTA's injunction request can be expected within a short time period, therefore the Commission should await this outcome before formally turning over its Arizona complaint files to the ACC. This would be the more orderly method of proceeding.

Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Stuart F. Feldstein

Counsel for Arizona Cable Television Association

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cc: Arizona Corporation Commission

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